(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) The nomination facilities in banks have been brought into force with effect from 29th March, 1985.

Screening of Income Tax Officers

317. SHRI SUSHIL CHAND MOHUNTA:
SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently decided to sereen senior Income Tax Officers in the Country;

(b) if so, what is the result thereof stating the authority entrusted with the screening;

(c) whether it is a fact that certain Income Tax Officers sought retirement before the screening was conducted, if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government propose to screen the junior officers of the Department also in order to ascertain whether any of them has assets and living style beyond their means?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI). (a) The process of screening all officials of the Income-tax Department including Senior Income-tax Officers, with a view to taking action in suitable cases, is a continuous one.

(b) So far during 1985, four Commissioners of Income-tax and five Income-tax Officers have been pre-maturely retired under Fundamental Rule 56(j), in the public interest.

Screening is initially done by a Committee of senior officers within the Department and thereafter a Review Committee consisting of Secretary, Department of Revenue and a nominee of the Cabinet Secretariat examines the cases. After following the further prescribed procedure, the final orders are passed by the Competent Authority.

(c) According to the information available at present, 12 Commissioners of Income-tax, 3 Assistant Commissioners and 9 Income-tax Officers took voluntary retirement during 1985. However, it is not possible to say whether they took voluntary retirement in anticipation of the screening process by the Department.

(d) Yes, Sir.

Raising of bank service Charges

318. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have raised the Bank servic charges with effect from 1st September, 1985;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof stating the considerations which weighed in favour of raising the bank service charges;

(c) whether there has been wide dissatisfaction and resentment in the industry and trade against the rise in these charges; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to reconsider the matter, and if not what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) Some of the public sector banks have revised their charges for services rendered by them to customers. The revisions have been effected with the objective of covering the costs incurred by the banks in rendering such services, to a substantial extent.